प्रतिशत तत्काल भुगतान कर दें। इसके अलावा इन प्रचालकों से यह भी कहा गया है कि वे ब्याज सहित अपनी बकाया राशि में से भुगतान की गई राशि को घटाने के बाद शेष राशि की कवर करने के लिए अपनी वित्तीय बैंक गारंटियों में भी वृद्धि करें।

(ख) और (ग) दिनांक 25.01.99 के पत्र में इन प्रचालकों से यह भी अनुरोध किया गया है कि वे लाइसेंस शर्तों का कड़ाई से पालन करें। इन शर्तों का पालन न करने की स्थिति में लाइसेंस प्राधिकारी, लाइसेंस करार की शर्तों के तहत कार्रवाई करने तथा अपने पास उपलब्ध अन्य निवारक कार्रवाइयों का सहारा लेने के लिए मजबूर होगा। जहां एक तरफ कंपनियों से अभ्यावेदन प्राप्त हुए हैं वहीं दूसरी ओर कुछ कम्पनियों ने भुगतान भी किया है।

Introduction of Global Mobile Personal Communications Service

30. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Indian Company having a foreign equity upto a maximum of 49 per cent is eligible for Global Mobile Personal Communications by Satellite (GMPCS) Service as per the present rules;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a foolproof mechanism is provided to take care of national security concerns arising from the introduction of GMPCS in India and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if answer to part (c) above is in the negative, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per policy approved by the Government, any Indian registered company having a foreign equity upto a maximum of 49 per cent shall be eligible for grant of GMPCS Service licence on non-exclusive basis subject to clearance from security angle.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Government, after considering all aspects, have stipulated that the Gateways (Earth Stations) for all licensed systems would be located in India and their operation and maintenance would be with an authority/organisation designated by the Government. Specific proposals for GMPCS License will be cleared from security angle by a High Level Inter-Ministrial Committee.

(d) Does not arise in view of above.

Formulation of New Postal Policy

31. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state what are the details of steps which are being taken by Government to formulate any new postal policy in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): During 1997 a draft National Postal Policy was prepared and submitted for consideration of the Consultative Committee of Parliament for the Ministry of Communications in its meeting held on 28th August, 1997. However, discussions remained inconclusive. Keeping in view the rapid social-economic development and all pervasive technological advances in the communications sector and increasing pressure for faster and a more efficient service and to offer value added services especially tailor made for identified customer segments, the draft National Postal Policy was further modificed and discussed in a meeting of the Consultative Committee held on 5th February, 1999. It is being further modified in the light of the discussions held.

Repair of Roads and Footpaths demolished due to cabling work

32. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the telephone cabling work was carried out by Government in fornt of CGHS dispensaries, Sector-12, R.K. Puram, New Delhi in January, 1999 and the roads and footpaths which were demolished for the purpose have not yet been repaired so far causing inconvenience to the residents of this area;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken any action against the contractors and guilty Government officials in this regard; and

(d) by when Government propose to repair the roads and footpaths in the said area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) Yes, Sir. After trenching and cable laying, earth refilling works have already been completed by MTNL contractor.

(b) After the refilling work, final reinstatement of road/footpath has to be done by Municipal Corporation of Delhi.

(c) MTNL contractor, M/s HCL has been instructed for proper filling of the trenches in portion where it has not been done properly.

(d) The roads/footpaths are to be reinstated by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi. The road restoration charges for this have already been paid to MCD by MTNL Delhi in advance.

Celluar Phone Service by DOT

33. SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal with Government to establish a cellular phone service by DOT in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any litigation regarding the establishment of cellular phone service by DOT any where in India; and

(d) if so, what are the action taken to overcome that difficulty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) and (b) The proposal to establish cellular service by DOT is under examination of the Government.

(c) and (d) There is no litigation regarding the establishment of cellular phone service by the DOT. However, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) in its judgement dated 17.02.1998 had held the licence of MTNL to commence and carry on the business of providing mobile cellular services in Delhi and Mumbai as invalid. Appeal was filed against the TRAI's judgement in Delhi High Court. In the judgement dated 16.07.1998, the Delhi High Court had quashed the order of TRAI.

One of the private operators has filed on Letters Patent Appeal in Division bench of Delhi High Court challenging the judgement of single bench judge. The case is fixed for hearing on 3rd March, 1999.

Outstanding licence fee against cellular telecom operators

34. SHRI C.O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of outstanding licence fee remaining unpaid by private basic and cellular telecom operators;

(b) the reasons for allowing such operators to carry on their operations without payment of licence fee; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to make the operators pay the dues and the terms and conditions now stipulated by Government for renewal of their licences?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) As on 31.01.1999 a sum of Rs. 815.68 crs. from Basic and Rs. 2892.42 crs. from Cellular operators is outstanding towards Licence Fee including interest thereon.

(b) and (c) As per Licence conditions, the Licensing Authority has been making demands on the operators to pay the licence fees, but the licensees, individually as well through their Associations have been representing that the Govt. should give some relief to them due to non-viability, etc. of their projects.

Letters have been issued to the Cellular & Basic Service operators on 25.01.99 asking them to clear the outstanding dues together with interest thereon immediately. In case of their inability to clear the entire amount in lumpsum immediately, payment of atleast 20% or more of the total dues should be made by 15.02.99. The operators have further been asked to enhance the financial bank guarantees to cover the balance amount payable after deducting the amount paid. Since the licences are issued for 15 years in respect of Basic